(b) Under matric–15, Matric–16, Higher Secondary/Diploma–36, Graduates–30 and Postgraduates–07. Besides these, seventeen candidates are still studying and three have not yet submitted documents.

(c) There is no provision in the rules for appointment to dependents of victims of accidents/bomb blasts on the railways in Group 'C' and 'D'. However, Railways in exception to the rules, purely as a humanitarian gesture, have taken a decision to provide employment to the wards/legal heirs of the victims of Mumbai bomb blast case in Group 'D' category only. Hence, question does not arise to reconsider their case for appointment in Group 'C' categories as a special case.

Vidarbha Queen

†2742. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether "the Vidarbha Queen' a tourist train to be run on the Nagpur-Nagabhir route in Maharashtra is ready for operation;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) by when this train would be started on the Nagpur-Nagabhir route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Running of "Vidarbha Queen" the proposed tourist train between Nagpur and Nagabhir is under examination in this Ministry.

Water supply project

2743. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any time-frame programme for getting permission for railway crossings for the purpose of development projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that several proposals for permissions of railway crossings for various water supply projects are pending with Railway Authorities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Time frame depends upon fulfilment of certain pre-requisites including deposit of cost of work way leave charges etc. by the party concerned. As soon as firm proposals are received efforts are made to grant permission without any delay. However, no time schedule is prescribed yet priority is assigned based on funds deposit by outside agencies and importance of the work.

(b) Yes, Sir. Number of proposals are pending for fulfilment of certain requisites under extant rules.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Zone-wise detail is as under:

Sl. No.	Rly. Zone	No. of pending cases with Rlys.	Sl. No.	Rly. Zone	No. of pending cases with Rlys.
1	CR	22	9	WR	41
2	ER	1	10	EC	–
3	NR	1	11	E.Co.R	–
4	NE	3	12	NCR	–
5	NF	–	13	NWR	53
6	SR	127	14	SECR	–
7	SC	5	15	SWR	49
8	SE	5	16	WCR	–

Separate rail route arrangements from operations

2744. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestion from the Planning Commission to separate rail route arrangement from operations, to attract foreign investments in Railways and to allow entry to various companies in container business in order to create competitiveness in this business; and

(b) if so, the response of his Ministry alongwith details of present status of the action already taken and proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No specific proposal in this regard has been received from Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise. However, as per policy to open up the container train business, 15 parties belonging to public, private and cooperative sector have been given permission to procure their own wagons and set up Inland Container Depots. Running of these trains will be done by Indian Railways as per haulage charges applicable.

Haridaspur-Paradeep rail line

2745. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal of laying railway line between Haridaspur to Paradeep in Orissa;

(b) whether a conspiracy to put this project in cold storage is being hatched; and